

enjoy, prepare and stay safe.

It's been a tough year for all of us with bushfires, COVID-19 and even some local flooding, and we're all ready for a well-deserved break.



Our community is looking forward to welcoming back our much loved visitors. By combining a good dose of kindness and care – for ourselves and for others – and keeping an eye on seasonal safety and preparedness, we can relax and enjoy some much-needed down time this summer.

“The key to having a great summer break with family and friends this year is to be informed, prepared and alert,” says Bega Valley Shire Council’s Director of Assets and Operations and Local Emergency Management Officer, Anthony McMahan.

“We’ve been working closely with agencies across the Shire to prepare a Local Emergency Plan and we’re ready to activate our four primary evacuation centres if required.

“If you can, download the NSW Fires Near Me app, visit the NSW Rural Fire Service webpage and follow ‘NSW SES Bega Valley Units’ on Facebook.

“Our local ABC radio station – South East Regional Radio – is another great source of information in an emergency.

“And of course, don’t forget to swim between the flags and take care when driving on our roads.”

This year, having a safe and happy holiday also means adapting our usual summer rituals to include COVIDSafe practices.

“Avoid crowded environments, maintain physical distancing of 1.5m – about the length of a beach towel – and where physical distancing can’t be maintained, wear a mask. If you feel unwell, get tested and self-isolate.”

Council’s Bega Valley Together webpage has Plan & Prepare information, including local emergency contact details, and you can also follow Bega Valley Shire Council on Facebook.

Importantly, we all need to remember that the events of this year have affected us all differently, and we’re at different stages in our personal recovery journey. But by putting kindness and safety first, no matter where you are or what you’re doing, our holidays will be remembered for all the right reasons.

Let’s enjoy all that the Sapphire Coast and Bega Valley has to offer this summer.

Resilience NSW is encouraging people to prepare for summer by following five simple steps.

Get ready

1. Know your risk
2. Plan now for what you will do
3. Get your home ready
4. Be aware
5. Look out for each other

Welcome

BACK... We missed you!

This summer there are a few new rules in place to keep everyone safe. Please socialise safely, wash your hands regularly and stay 1.5m from others.

And, some things just never change.

Please take extra care while on the road and in the water.
Make a plan and know what you’ll do in an emergency.



We’re glad you’re here. ***Have a great summer***, be informed and prepared and, most importantly, ***stay safe, be kind*** and ***have fun***.